SUPPORT SERVICES TO FAMILIES

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OVERVIEW

Foster care funds are used to pay for services to the youth and family while the child is in out-of-home care, except as noted in <u>FOM 901-8</u>, <u>Fund Sources</u>. Services funded from other sources are available to keep children in their homes or help reunite families.

FAMILY REUNIFICATION PROGRAM (FRP)

Family Reunification Program (FRP) provides four to a maximum of six months of therapeutic, skill-based interventions designed to help families reunify and keep children safely at home. FRP services are available to families with a child in an out-of-home placement due to abuse or neglect. Caseworkers may refer a family for FRP services when the return home is planned within 30 calendar days of the referral to FRP, or within the first 30 calendar days of the child's return home. The child must be a temporary court ward in out-of-home placement due to an adjudicated abuse/neglect case, including dual wards.

Note: Contacts made by FRP may be used to satisfy some caseworker contact requirements after a child has returned home; see FOM 722-06H, Case Contacts.

FAMILIES FIRST OF MICHIGAN PROGRAM (FFM)

Families First of Michigan (FFM) serves families with children in out-of-home care due to abuse, neglect, or delinquency when reunification cannot occur without intensive services. Families may be referred within seven days of a child's return home. FFM offers families intensive, short-term crisis intervention and family education services in their home for four weeks using the FFM model. An extension of up to two weeks may be available.

Note: Contacts made by FFM may be used to satisfy some caseworker contact requirements after a child has returned home; see <u>FOM 722-06H</u>, <u>Case Contacts</u>.

HOME BUILDERS (HB)

Home Builders (HB) is an in-home program that works with families at intensive risk of abuse or neglect to prevent imminent removal.

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HB provides an average of eight to ten hours of face to face services per week for 28 days. An extension of up to two weeks may be available. HB uses clinical interventions, family education, and resource navigation to help strengthen the family. HB may provide reunification services if FRP and FFM are full or otherwise unavailable.

FAMILIES TOGETHER BUILDING SOLUTIONS -PATHWAYS TO POTENTIAL (FTBS-P2P)

Families Together/Building Solutions - Pathways to Potential (FTBS - P2P) offers in-home, solution-focused interventions designed to serve families with multiple barriers to enhance family well-being, improve child safety, and address family issues and risk factors in the home. FTBS services require family participation of three hours per week, or as needed, to address any risks that arise. FTBS intervention is available for up to 90 days. An extension of up to 90 days may be available. FTBS may provide reunification services if FRP is full and the family needs services for a longer period of time than provided by FFM or HB.

Note: Some local offices may have contracts with private agencies providing FTBS services separate from FTBS-P2P. For information on county-specific FTBS contracts and services, contact the Business Service Center (BSC) contract analyst.

PARENT PARTNERS

Parent Partners teams parents with an ongoing CPS case or whose children have been placed in foster care with parents who have successfully reunified with their children to provide guidance and mentorship. Referrals to the program can be made by the CPS caseworker for ongoing cases or when a petition has been filed to remove the child(ren).

STATE EMERGENCY RELIEF (SER)

<u>State Emergency Relief</u> helps applicants with housing and other essential needs in an emergency. SER funds may be available to help families in crisis avoid removal or accomplish timely return

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home for children placed out-of-home; see the <u>State Emergency</u> <u>Relief (ERM) manual</u>, and <u>FOM 722-12</u>, <u>Financial Supports</u>.

CHILD AND FAMILY SAFETY, STABILITY, AND PERMANENCY/ FAMILY REUNIFICATION ACCOUNT

Child and Family Safety, Stability, and Permanency (CFSSP) funds can be used for eligible concrete needs or direct services to prevent removal, achieve reunification, or preserve or secure relative placement when SER is denied or not applicable. CFSSP funds may be directly apportioned to provide flexible spending, or Family Reunification Account may be a sub-account of CFSSP to accommodate flexible spending; see FOM 722-12, Financial Supports.

PREVENTION SERVICES: FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES ACT

Families with a child at imminent risk of entering foster care, including those whose children have recently returned home, may be eligible for evidence-based services funded by the Family First Prevention Services Act for up to 12 months after reunification; see SRM 108, Prevention Services: Family First Prevention Services Act.

LOCAL FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES

MDHHS county offices may have contracts with other family preservation service providers. For more information on local contracts, contact the BSC contract analyst.

TUITION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (TIP)

TIP provides tuition assistance and mandatory fee payments at participating Michigan institutions for eligible students who:

Apply before graduation from high school or GED completion.

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- Graduate high school or receive a GED under the age of 20.
- Are identified by MDHHS as having Medicaid coverage for 24 months out of any 36-consecutive month timeframe after age nine.

Complete eligibility criteria and participating Michigan institutions can be found on the MI Student Aid Tuition Incentive Program website and on the Tuition Incentive Program Fact Sheet.

Questions regarding the TIP program can be directed to 1-888-4-GRANTS (1-888-447-2678) or by emailing the MI student aid mailbox (mistudentaid@michigan.gov).

CONTACT

Direct questions about this policy item to the <u>child welfare policy</u> <u>mailbox</u> (child-welfare-policy@michigan.gov).